

**STATE OF VERMONT  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICE**

**October 15, 2001**

***2001 Vermont Guidelines for Energy Efficient Commercial Construction and  
Act 250***

The Vermont Department of Public Service is pleased to announce the *2001 Vermont Guidelines for Energy Efficient Construction*. These new commercial building energy standards update and supersede the 1998 *Vermont Consolidated Act 250 Energy Guidelines for Typical C&I Buildings*.

The 2001 Guidelines provide a set of minimum performance standards for Vermont which provide Act 250 applicants with a consistent reference document to facilitate the review of energy components commonly found in commercial construction projects throughout the state. The 2001 Commercial Guidelines utilize the 2000 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) as amended to meet Vermont specific requirements and circumstances, including Act 250.

The Guidelines address basic, minimum energy performance requirements for most commercial, institutional, high-rise residential and industrial building components typically found to be cost-effective on a life-cycle basis. In addition to establishing minimum efficiency levels for common energy systems, the 2001 Guidelines provide a relatively simple, consistent method for addressing the “best available technology” provision of Criterion 9(F).

For simple buildings, the prescriptive efficiency levels contained in the Guidelines may address most, if not all, aspects of a building’s energy consuming systems. For larger, more complicated projects, the Guidelines establish a foundation upon which custom building designs and technologies can be analyzed on a life-cycle cost basis.

The 2001 Guidelines will not cover all Act 250 applications. There will be instances where the Department of Public Service, which reviews Act 250 applications under Criteria 9(F) and 9(J), will request applicants to analyze custom measures on a life-cycle cost basis. This typically occurs when more complex buildings or energy intensive systems are proposed. For all commercial construction projects throughout the state, the Guidelines can expedite Act 250 review and approval in a simplified, consistent and predictable manner.

The Department welcomes comments on the 2001 Guidelines. If you have any questions about the contents and/or use of the Guidelines please contact Randall Lloyd of the VT Dept. of Public Service at 802-828-4020 or by e-mail at [lloyd@psd.state.vt.us](mailto:lloyd@psd.state.vt.us). For questions about specific Act 250 projects contact Christopher Owen at 802-828-4038 or [owen@psd.state.vt.us](mailto:owen@psd.state.vt.us). Individuals may also contact the utilities listed on page two of the Guidelines.

The *2001 Vermont Guidelines for Energy Efficient Commercial Construction*, technical support materials and information about upcoming training workshops are available on the Department’s CBES project web site at: <http://www.state.vt.us/psd/ee/ee19.htm>